Under utilization of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Funds

197. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan shows a big gap between plans and their implementation during this financial year;

(b) whether it is a fact that only one fourth of the amount approved for the nation-wide education project Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was actually spent by the States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the unutilised funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) During this financial year 565 district based Annual Work Plans and Budgets have so far been approved. The process to cover the remaining is underway.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Against releases to States totalling Rs. 2732.32 crores during 2003-2004, an expenditure of Rs. 3617.88 crores was reported by the States, which includes their State shares.

Children covered under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

198. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children covered under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan since its inception; State-wise;

(b) what measures Government propose to take to attain the gender parity in education by 2005; and

(c) whether it is fact that UNICEFs recent report appreciated the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan initiated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) In the year 2001-2002, out of 19.2 crore children In the 6-14 year age group, 15.7 crore children were enrolled in schools. At the end of year 2002-2003, the number of out of school children declined to 2.3 crore. State-wise position given in Statement (See below).

(b) Under SSA, efforts have been made for increasing enrolment of girls by providing them free text books, separate toilets, organization special mainstreaming camps for out of school girls; community mobilization to target girl's enrolment and retention; gender sensitization of textbooks and teachers; and for context specific innovative activities for girl's education including early childhood care and education. Under the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL), additional support to Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) is being provided for enhancing learning of the under-privileged/disadvantaged girls at elementary level. Besides, residential schools with boarding facilities at elementary level are also proposed to be opened for girls belonging predominantly to SC, ST, OBC and minorities, in difficult areas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Statement

State-wise out of school children in elementary education

Dated 15/01/2004

States Name	Out of School Children as on 01,04.2003
Andhra Pradesh	642098
Arunachal Pradesh	127028
Assam	1340197
Bihar	4430140
Chhattisgarh	364046
Goa	Not Available
Gujarat	415153
Haryana	210606
Himachal Pradesh	7498
Jammu & Kashmir	155140
Jharkhand	801711
Karnataka	200000
Kerala	387266

States Name	Out of School Children as on 01.04.2003
Madhya Pradesh	742495
Maharashtra	1209177
Manipur	102052
Meghalaya	163357
Mizoram	23240
Nagaland	Not Availble
Orissa	1044816
Punjab	330005
Rajasthan	1065500
Sikkim	15033
Tamil Nadu	831532
Tripura	89194
Uttar Pradesh	4300000
Uttaranchal	74125
West Bengal	3950239
A&N Islands	Not Available
Chandigarh	Not Available
D & N Haveli	10417
Daman Diu*	Not Available
Delhi	Not Available
Lakshadweep	Not Available
Pondicherry	2453
TOTAL	2,30,34,518

Expenditure on education

†199. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that literacy rate is higher in several countries

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.